



Montgomery County Council

From the Office of Councilmember Nancy Floreen

For Immediate Release

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Contact: Susan Green
240/777-7967

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**Councilmember Floreen Lauds Vote, Urges Area Residents to
“Eat Smoke-Free in Montgomery County”**

“As a principal sponsor of the bill to prohibit smoking in County restaurants and bars, I’m delighted with the measure’s passage. After all the rhetorical skirmishing, the Council’s 8-1 vote sends a strong message that the public health comes first.

“Smoking is already barred in every workplace in the State – except restaurants. Today the Council voted to close that loophole and protect restaurant workers and patrons alike against the known dangers of second-hand smoke. Our action sends the message, loud and clear, that we value clean air in bars and restaurants, just as we do in all other workplaces.

“This is a strong bill. It does more for the public health than any jurisdiction in the Washington metropolitan area. I believe non-smokers from across the region – not to mention the 90% of County residents who do not smoke -- will flock to our restaurants, grateful for the chance to eat smoke-free. I hope that other jurisdictions in the region will follow our lead and enact similar protections.”

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